



Connecticut Department of Public Health

**Testimony Presented Before the Planning & Development
Committee**

February 17, 2023

**Commissioner Manisha Juthani, MD
860-509-7101**

**Senate Bill 1001, An Act Concerning Certain Sewage Disposal Systems and Alternative Sewage
Treatment Systems**

The Department of Public Health (DPH) provides the following information on SB 1001 An Act Concerning Certain Sewage Disposal Systems and Alternative Sewage Treatment Systems. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this issue.

While we appreciate the bill's intention, granting regulatory authority over small community sewerage systems to DPH and increasing from 7,500 to 10,000 gallons per day, the capacity of subsurface sewage disposal systems (a.k.a., septic systems) for which the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection would delegate to the Commissioner of Public Health, the bill would substantially increase the department's workload. DPH would need additional resources to properly monitor these systems, and it is important to note that no funding has been recommended within the Governor's proposed FY 2024-2025 biennial budget for the purposes of this bill.

In addition, even with the necessary funding, DPH would not be able to adopt regulations under the timeline in section 2 of the bill. Adopting regulations is a multi-step process involving the agency, the Attorney General, the Office of Policy and Management, and the Governor's Office, before eventual submittal Legislative Regulations Review Committee. If the proposed legislation should move forward, we request at least a year to implement regulations, with an implementation date of July 1, 2024.

Thank you for your consideration of this information. DPH is always available to provide any information or answer any questions as the Committee considers this or other proposals.

***Phone: (860) 509-7269
410 Capitol Avenue - MS # 13GRE, P.O. Box 340308 Hartford, CT 06134
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